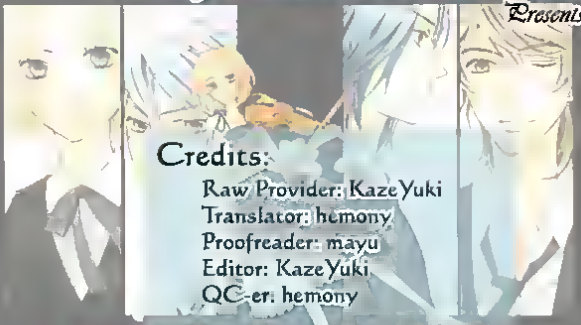
Shoujo Sense and Kaito Zero

Presents



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Aria of Linden Hall

Volume 4 Chapter 18

by Kure Yuki

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Session.18

WHY HAVE YOU BEEN CRYING SINCE EARLIER?

"SEARCH FOR HER"?!
MYOUGA WENT TO SEARCH FOR HER
WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER SO THAT MATTERS WON'T GET WORSE.
YES.
WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT SO IT ISN'T A DESIRABLE SITUATION FOR BOTH OUR SIDES RIGHT NOW...
"GET WORSE"...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY SAYING KANADE GOT KIDNAPPED?!
I DEEPLY APOLOGIZE!
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'RE WORRYING ABOUT APPEARANCES AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK.

sfx Gun
IT'S...
IT'S MY FAULT... I'M REALLY SORRY.
AMA-MIYA
MYOUGA RECEIVED AN EMAIL.
FROM MIKAGE-SAN'S STORY, WE'VE UNDERSTOOD THAT SHE WAS ABDUCTED AFTER BEING MISTAKEN FOR SOMEONE ELSE, BUT...
WON'T YOU EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO US IN MORE DETAIL?

THAT CAN'T BE...
LOOKS LIKE KOHINATA-SAN HASN'T RETURNED TO THE DORM YET.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, REIJI-KUN?
I HAVE YOUR YOUNGER SISTER. IF YOU WANT HER TO RETURN SAFELY, THEN WITHDRAW FROM THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT, AND...
SFX Clatter
WAS KOHINATA-SAN REALLY...?
YES... HER THINGS WERE LYING AROUND THERE... IT WAS STRANGE.
A STRATEGY TO HANDLE THE PRESS MUST BE DECIDED UPON. IT WILL TAKE TWO HOURS TO GET A HOLD OF THE OTHER DIRECTORS OF THE BOARD AND CALL A MEETING
SAY, REIJI-KUN, DO YOU HAVE ANY LEADS ON WHO COULD BE BEHIND THIS?
LEADS?

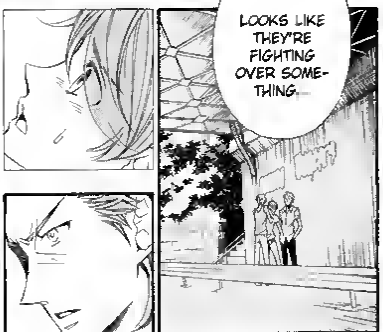
NII-SAMA.
THERE'S NO WAY I'D REMEMBER EVERY TRIVIAL MATTER...
REIJI-KUN! IF SHE GETS HURT, WE WON'T GET AWAY WITH JUST A SCANDAL.
sfx Grind
DON'T YOU THINK IT'LL BE A LOSS FOR THE ENTIRE AMANE ACADEMY?
sfx Slam
NII-SAMA?!
HOLD ON, REIJI-KUN! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WAIT!
MYOU-GA?
YOU SAID THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL BE IN TWO HOURS...?

YOU'RE ACQUAINTED WITH THE SEISOU STUDENTS, RIGHT? IT WOULD BE TROUBLESOME IF THEY MAKE A BIG FUSS ABOUT IT, SO YOU HEAD OVER THERE
IT WOULD BE TROUBLING IF THE POLICE GOT INVOLVED
WHY MUST I WAIT?!
MYOUGA, I'LL GO TOO.
WAIT! AMAMIYA-KUN, YOU STAY HERE.
トボトボ…
sfx Plod Plod

sfx Sigh
sfx Plod 3x
IS IT REALLY ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TOURNAMENT ...?
はぁ…
トボトボ
sfx Shake 2x
NO, NO, THIS IS BAD.
ふるふる
IN THE END, WE HADN'T KIDNAPPED MYOUGA'S SISTER. WE MISTOOK HER FOR SOMEONE ELSE.
RIGHT, RIGHT.
WHO WAS SHE AGAIN...? THAT BASTARD HIDO SAID SHE WAS FROM SEISOU.
EH ...?
HE'S SO STUPID, ISN'T HE?
HEY, GUYS, LET'S INVITE KANAOE-CHAN AND THE OTHERS TO COME AND PLAY TOO.

BOLAS -"T/N This might be a Spanish expression. It probably comes from the expression "¡Que bola!" which, according to Spanishdict.com, is an informal expression you say to someone that you think is telling a lie. In this case, it's as if Arata is saying "Lies!" to Hozumi.

bolas!
YOU SAY THAT, BUT HOZUMI-SENPAI, AREN'T YOU ENJOYING HAVING LOTS OF SOUVENIRS?!
MY.. MY FAMILY AND RELATIVES ASKED ME TO GET THEM
CALM DOWN, YOU TWO.
WE'RE GOING OUT SO THAT WE WON'T DISTURB SEI-SOU'S PRACTICE DO YOU GET THAT, ARATA?
CAPTAIN YAGISAWA'S RIGHT. PLAYING AROUND ISN'T IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW

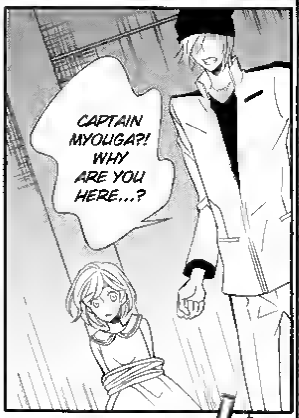


SHUT UP! I TOLD YOU I HAVE NO IDEA.
BUT...
ANY-WAY... THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO HEAR IT.
I CERTAIN-LY WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THAT...
RIGHT, CAPTAIN YAGISAWA?
?!
THAT'S RIGHT. SHALL WE TALK FOR A BIT?

sfx Beeping
Eeeee...
Incoming
WHAT IS IT?
HELLO! IS CAPTAIN MYOUGA THERE?
AH... UHM... HIDO-SENPAI...!!
BOWING ON THE GROUND

WHEN IT COMES TO KOHINATA-SAN, REIJI-KUN... IS NO GOOD, SO HE'S LIKE A KID.
BUT... IF SHE'S THERE,
HER EXISTENCE WOULD MAKE NII-SAMA RISE UP.

JUST WHO IS SHE FOR MYOUGA...?
MAKING SUCH A PLACE THEIR HEADQUARTERS...
THEY'RE LIKE RATS. SO FILTHY.


CAPTAIN MYOUGA?! WHY ARE YOU HERE...?

SFX Gasp

EH...
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU.

YOU PERSONALLY SHOWED UP.. YOU KNOW MY DEMAND, RIGHT..?
SHALL WE HEAR YOUR REPLY?

WHY ...?
A WITHDRAWAL FROM THE TOURNAMENT? KNOW YOUR OWN PLACE.
WHY ARE YOU ...?
I OBEYED YOUR INSTRUCTIONS, CAPTAIN MYOUGA, WITH THE INTENTION OF HAVING A SATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE.
OF COURSE, I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE IT PERFECT LIKE YOU OR AMAMIYA-SAN, BUT..!
I SHOULD BE ABLE TO SURPASS THAT 1ST YEAR IN TECHNIQUE AND EXPRESSION!
HOLD ON. HE DOESN'T HAVE A SAY ON WHETHER A PERSON PERFORMS OR NOT.
HE DOES!
...TO BEGIN WITH, OUR SCHOOL
WAS STARTED AS A HOBBY BY THAT RUSSIAN ALEXEI.

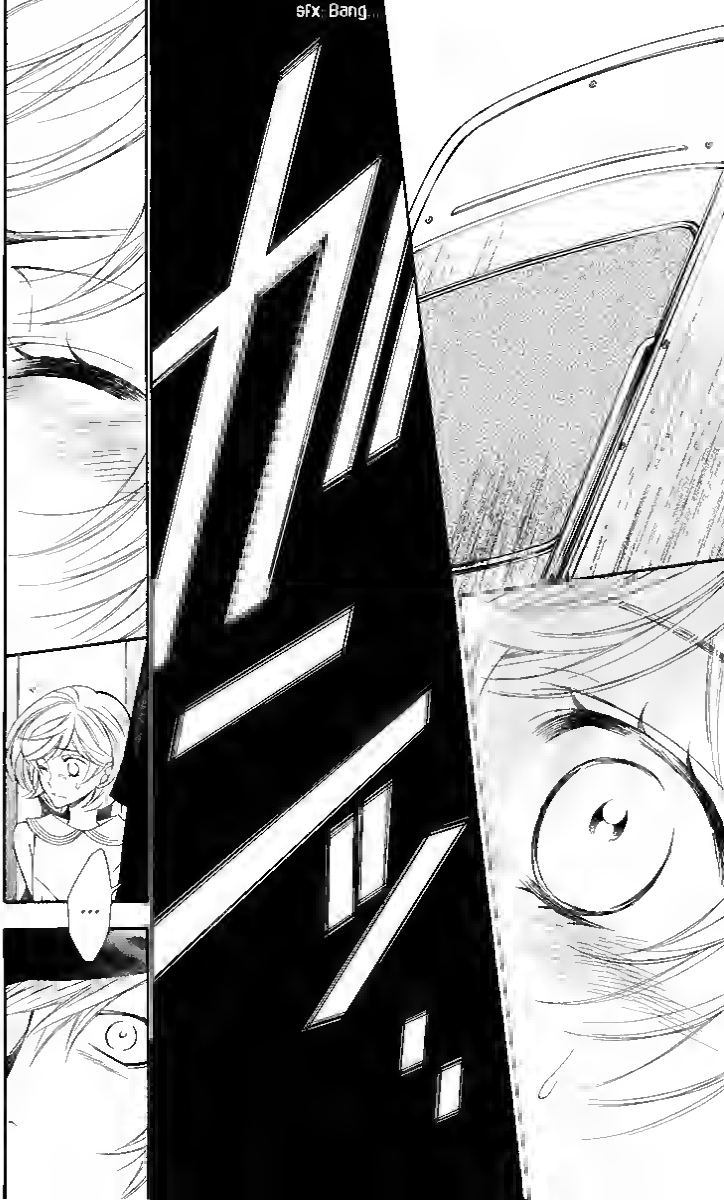
CAPTAIN MYOUGA WAS JUST ONE OF KIDS HE GATHERED
BUT CAPTAIN MYOUGA ROBBED ALEXEI OF REAL POWER... HE'S ALREADY RISEN UP TO BECOME THE LEADING FIGURE OF AMANE'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BUT EVEN IF IT'S IN NAME ONLY, ALEXEI IS STILL THE CHAIRMAN ... SO IF SOME TROUBLE WERE TO OCCUR...
CAPTAIN MYOUGA'S POSITION WILL SUDDENLY BE IN IMMINENT DANGER...

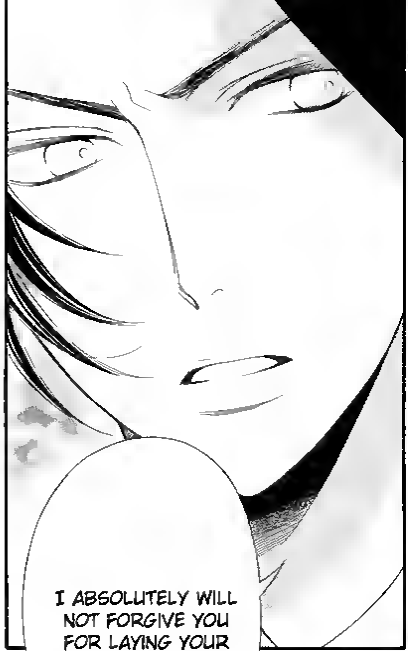
I...

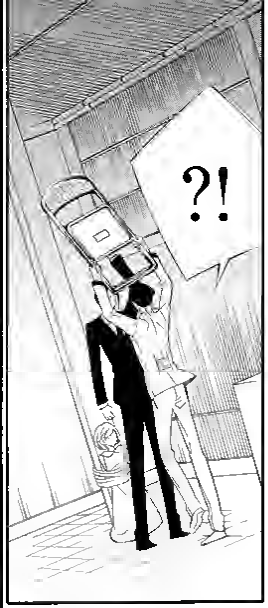
SO WHAT?!
SHUT UP!

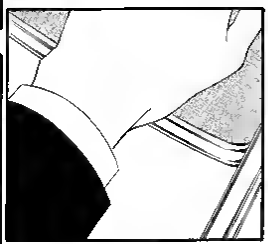
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, CAPTAIN MYOUGA?

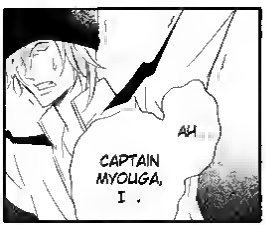
SFX Grab
SHUT YOUR TRAAAP !!
WHATEVER THE REASON MAY BE, RESORTING TO THREATENING AND KIDNAPPING ISN'T GOOD...!
YET STILL...
THEN SHOULDN'T YOU WORK HARD FOR IT ONE MORE TIME?
SHUT UP!
BE QUIET!
I WAS YEARNING TO STAND ON STAGE TEAMED UP IN ENSEMBLE WITH CAPTAIN MYOUGA.
IT WAS MY FIRST TIME RECEIVING SUCH AN ACCLAMATION...
IT WAS MY EVERYTHING...


sfx: Bang...
カッ
...

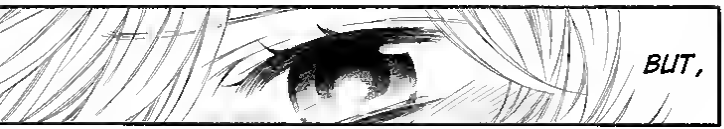

I ABSOLUTELY WILL NOT FORGIVE YOU FOR LAYING YOUR HANDS ON HER.


?!



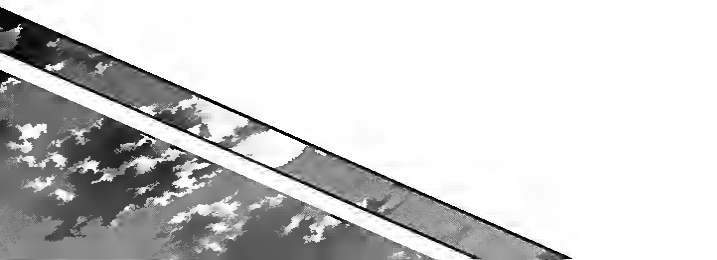

AH...
CAPTAIN MYOUGA, I .

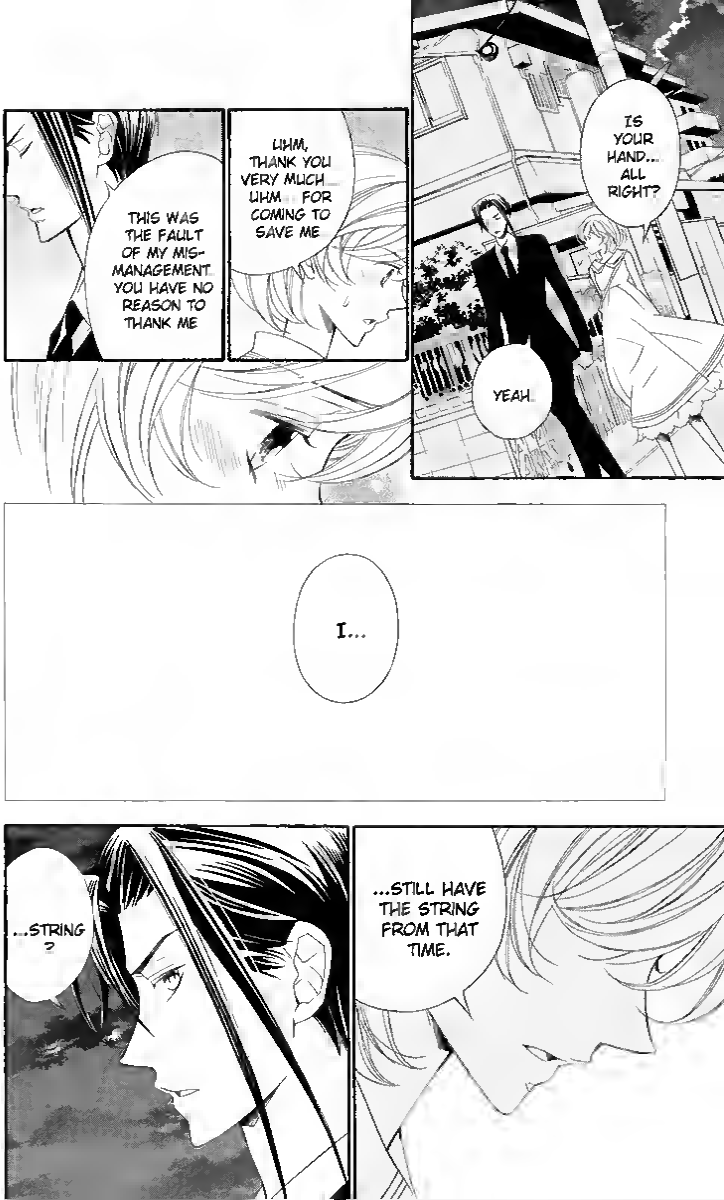
SHOW IT THROUGH YOUR MUSIC.
AH...
SFX Clatter
IF YOU WANT ME TO CHOOSE YOU, THEN,
KNOW THAT ANYTHING ELSE WILL NOT CHANGE MY MIND.
HIS STANCE TOWARDS MUSIC IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM RITSU-KUN'S AND MINE. IN THE TOURNAMENT TOO, HE DISCARDED PEOPLE MERCILESSLY AND WITHOUT REGARD FOR THE WAY HE DID IT.
...OVERBEARINGLY PROUD.
ALWAYS...



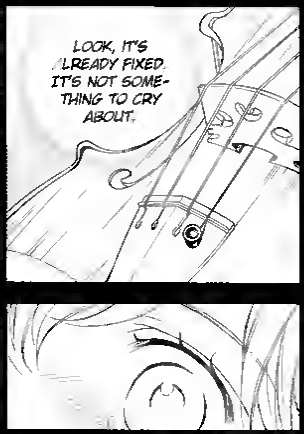
WHEN IT
COMES TO
MUSIC,

HE'S
FRIGHTENINGLY
SERIOUS.




IS YOUR HAND... ALL RIGHT?
YEAH.
UHM, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. UHM... FOR COMING TO SAVE ME
THIS WAS THE FAULT OF MY MIS-MANAGEMENT. YOU HAVE NO REASON TO THANK ME
I...
...STILL HAVE THE STRING FROM THAT TIME.
...STRING ?

SEVEN YEARS AGO...
...WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN CRYING ABOUT SINCE EARLIER?
SFX: Sob
DID THE STRING ON YOUR VIOLIN SNAP? YOU DIDN'T BRING A REPLACEMENT WITH YOU?
THIS IS A COMPETITION. HOW COULD YOU BE SO CAREFREE?
YOUR CRYING WON'T FIX IT! I HAVE A SPARE SO I'LL LEND IT TO YOU!



*T/N She's referring to that time when she said that she didn't mind losing the contest (See chapter 17)

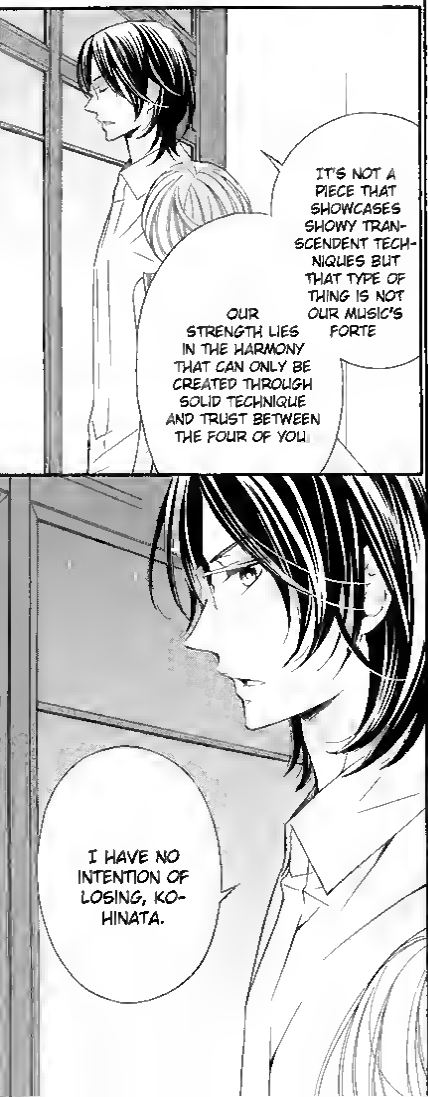
THIS TIME, I'LL SHOW YOU WITH MY MUSIC THAT I FIGHT FAIR AND SQUARE.
Well
WE'D FACE AMANE IN FINALS SO IT'S STILL A BIT FAR OFF
KANADE!
MAKE SURE YOU DON'T GET DEFEATED BEFORE YOU FACE ME

YOUR DEFEAT WOULD BE FORGIVEN ONLY WHEN YOU'RE ON STAGE WITH ME.
SINCE YOU SAID THAT YOU'LL SHOW IT THROUGH YOUR MUSIC...

RITSU-KUN
KOHI-NATA ...?
EVERY-ONE WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU IF YOU LOSE TO SOMEONE ELSE.
SFX Hug
YEAH SORRY ABOUT THAT
WHY ARE YOU BEHAVING LIKE A KID?
WELL ANYWAY, I'M GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT

I WANT TO WIN.
BUT I WAS THINKING IF THERE IS A NEED FOR WINS AND LOSSES IN MUSIC
RATHER THAN WANTING TO WIN...
...I WANT TO CONVEY A MESSAGE TO SOMEONE.

T/N Haydn's Quartet No. 53 in D major ("The Lark"), Op. 64, No. 5


I'M THINKING OF GOING WITH HAYDN'S STRING QUARTET, "THE LARK".
IT'S NOT A PIECE THAT SHOWCASES SHOWY TRANSCENDENT TECHNIQUES BUT THAT TYPE OF THING IS NOT OUR MUSIC'S FORTE
OUR STRENGTH LIES IN THE HARMONY THAT CAN ONLY BE CREATED THROUGH SOLID TECHNIQUE AND TRUST BETWEEN THE FOUR OF YOU.
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF LOSING, KOHINATA.

AS EXPECTED OF RITSU-KUN.
Ah, but,
INCLUDING RITSU-KUN, IT WOULD BE THE SOUND OF ALL FIVE OF US, RIGHT?
MAYBE THERE'S WAY TOO MANY...
KYOUYA WOULD MAKE A FUSS IF HE HEARD THAT.
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT!
He'd say he won't go through such trouble.
LET'S WIN, KOHINATA
AH, AND THE PEOPLE FROM SHISEIKAN AND ALL THE ORCHESTRA CLUB MEMBERS WE COMPETED AGAINST...

SAEKA-SAMA.. ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO PERFORM THAT SONG?
BUT WE'RE FACING SEISOU ACADEMY FIRST.. NOT AMANE.
YEAH.. THAT'S RIGHT
THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON TO BEAT, AND THAT'S MYOUGA REIJI.